(10) Expansion plans of AIIMS should be evaluated in the light of AIIMS's aims and objectives and not merely in terms of engineering feasibility; expansion in OPD should be coupled with introduction of MD course in family medicine.

(11) Establishment of two Research Councils to review and monitor ongoing progress of research, quality of publications, generation of external grants, plans for starting or expanding research facilities and to make recommendations to GB every year; the Research Council should also play role in advancing the industrial linkage in R&D Projects.

(12) Made specific recommendations on the governance structure of AIIMS and consequential Amendments to Act, Rules/Regulations.

In order to reduce the patient load in AIIMS, under Pradhan Mantri Swastha Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), it is proposed to set up one AIIMS like institution each in the State of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh). The objective of the Scheme is to correct the regional imbalance in the availability fo affordable/reliable tertiary Health care services and also to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country. Under the Scheme, 13 existing Medical institutions have also been identified for upgradation to the level of AIIMS. AIIMS like institutions are likely to be established within a period of three to four years. The Scheme would greatly reduce the influx of patients coming from States outside Delhi to AIIMS for tertiary healthcare.

Petroleum, chemicals and petrochemicals investment regions

*267. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to set up massive petroleum, chemical and petrochemical investment regions across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had shortlisted five best locations in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Cabinet has recently approved the Policy for setting up of Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR), and the same is to be notified. The PCPIR is a specifically delineated investment region having an area of about 250 sq. kms. (with atleast 40% area earmarked for processing activities). This region would be a combination of production projects, public utilities, logistics, environmental protection, residential areas and administrative services. The purpose is to encourage global scale investment in petroleum, chemical & petrochemical sectors to accelerate economic growth. The Central Government will consider and approve applications from the State Governments for establishment of PCPIRs in terms of this policy and also facilitate availability of external physical infrastructure linkages including rail, road, ports and airports. Similarly, the State Government, applying for a PCPIR, will ensure that all physical infrastructure and utilities linkages under its jurisdiction are provided.

(c) and (d) The PCPIR Policy is not location specific. Applications received from interested State Governments for setting up PCPIRs are to be considered in terms of the Policy on PCPIR.

Maternal Healthcare Scheme

*268. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new free Maternal Healthcare Scheme has been launched to benefit women living below poverty line in need of pre-pregnancy care, institutional deliveries, post-natal care, etc; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme and the places where it has been implemented?